

EVERY indication points to the end of the coal man's short vacation.

# The Topeka State Journal

WEATHER FORECAST for Kansas:  
Show this afternoon and tonight;  
colder tonight, Saturday, cloudy,  
colder in south portion.

HOME EDITION

TOPEKA, KANSAS, FRIDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 15, 1918—TEN PAGES

THREE CENTS

## GOV'T BAN ON EXPORTS A REPORTS A REPORTS

Means Curtailment on Commerce in Non-Essentials.

President's Proclamation Puts Shipping Under License.

## GOES INTO EFFECT SATURDAY

Transporting Army to France Needs All Available Ships.

Also Will Conserve Products of C. S. for Use by Americans.

Washington, Feb. 15.—By a new proclamation today President Wilson placed all exports to all countries under license by the war trade board after tomorrow.

The proclamation also applies the license system to all imports and thus places the entire foreign commerce of the country under the license system of the war trade board.

It is one of the steps of reducing ocean carriage of nonessentials, to release ships for transportation of troops and war materials.

Issues Explanatory Statement.

The following explanatory statement was issued by the war trade board:

"The president has today issued a proclamation which will become effective tomorrow. The purpose and effect of these are to subject to control by license the entire foreign commerce of the United States and from and after February 16, 1918, no commodities may be exported from this country or imported into this country except under license.

"The president has heretofore issued several proclamations controlling certain exports and imports, and Title VII of the espionage act, and one proclamation controlling importation of certain commodities under provisions of Section 11 of the trading with the enemy act. The military situation and the tonnage situation have made increasingly apparent the necessity of instituting a complete and thoroughgoing control of all our exports and imports.

To maintain the army in France, the transportation of troops to France and the maintenance of a continued flow of supplies and munitions needed to maintain them in fighting trim require the use of such a way as shipping which can possibly be devoted to these purposes. This demand must be met and if it becomes necessary to curtail the use of our own ships, these measures which are forced upon us by the critical tonnage situation and the necessity of availing ourselves of every available means of maintaining our armies in France.

The limitation of exports is necessary, also, to conserve the products of this country for the use of our own people and the peoples of the nations associated with us in the war; we must have as much as possible, for such countries to the south which have always depended upon us; we must also conserve our own resources, and we must secure for ourselves in return shipping and supplies urgently needed.

Doesn't Mean an Embargo.

"Promulgation of these two proclamations does not mean an embargo on exports or a prohibition of imports, but places in hands of the president power to regulate which he will exercise through the war trade board and the treasury department. This power will be exercised with the single purpose of winning the war and every effort will be made to secure the maximum interference with our foreign trade and to impose upon our exporters and importers no restrictions except those involved in the maintenance of definite and necessary objects.

"As heretofore, licenses for the export or import of coin bullion, currency, evidences of debt, and other property and transfers of credit, will be issued by the treasury department; licenses for all other exports and imports, including merchandise, bunkers, ships' supplies, etc., will be issued by the war trade board."

## DR. BIDDLE VERY ILL

Superintendent State Hospital in Dangerous Condition.

Dr. T. C. Biddle, superintendent of Topeka State hospital, is dangerously sick in his apartments in the administration building of the hospital. He is suffering from pneumonia, and has been under the care of physicians since last Saturday. His condition today is regarded as very serious.

Pneumonia followed a chill which Doctor Biddle suffered last Saturday morning. In company with Mrs. Biddle, the hospital head had driven to the Morton Albaugh home following receipt of news of Mr. Albaugh's death. While at the home, a friend Doctor Biddle suffered a severe chill. He registered a high fever when he returned to the hospital, and physicians were called. This week pneumonia developed.

Doctor Biddle is one of the most widely known educational heads in the country, and has been in the state service longer than any man connected with the Kansas institutions.

He is widely known in Topeka and the state, and was an intimate friend and associate of the late Morton Albaugh. He has been at the head of Topeka State hospital nearly twenty years—coming here from Emporia in 1899 during the early days of the Stanley administration.

Reports this afternoon were to the effect that Doctor Biddle rallied during the day and was somewhat stronger.

## LABOR'S LOYALTY IS LABELLED LIP SERVICE BY HALM

President N. Y. Dock Co. Speaks at the C. of C.

Former Topekan Condemns Strikes in War Time.

## SUCCESSFUL MEN IN DEMAND

Goethals Demands and Gets Result Producers.

More Speed Must Be Shown in Ship Building.

W. E. Halm, president of the New York Dock company, made the talk at the Chamber of Commerce today noon. He was presented in a complimentary introduction by C. H. Trapp.

"Our greatest danger today is the labor situation," declared Halm. "The loyalty of labor seems to be lip service only as nearly every paper one reads carries in it a report of a strike or a threatened strike by the employees of the great transportation companies and by the builders in the shipyards of the nation. Gompers is regarded as a good friend of President Wilson, but does not get action."

In speaking of the recent senatorial investigations in Washington when prominent men in the military and political life of America were put on the senatorial drill, Halm declares "The really successful business man of the United States—he that is said to belong to the capitalist class—was looked on with dire suspicion by the politicians holding the cabinet offices."

Good Men Turned Down.

Halm asserted that "numerous prominent business men of the country have repeatedly tendered their whole time and services to the government for the period of the war, and have been as often turned down."

"The senatorial investigations have done one thing, however," Halm stated at one point, "they have brought to light the inefficiency of the highly technical officer of the army to carry the burden of administering the industrial processes necessary in this time of war. The first reform was evident in the shipping board, and the next greatest step toward clearing the air was done in the quartermaster department under the direction of Colonel Gushall."

Goethals Gets Workers.

"Colonel Goethals is a strong man and is essentially an autocrat," according to Halm, "but when he went into the quartermaster department of the army the first thing he did was to state just what he was going to do and how it was going to be done. He began by getting rid of the quick-weeding out of the inefficient officers in charge of the different departments and placed business-trained civilians in their places. And he began by paying a salary commensurate with their services. Goethals demands a full day's work every day of the week, and not the halfhearted attention and endeavor on perhaps three days out of the six."

At another point in his talk Halm declared that 5,000,000 tons of shipping have been sunk by the Germans in the past year, and only 2,000,000 tons have been built in the same time. "We will need no less than 4,000,000 tons of shipping to properly maintain and feed our army overseas."

Halm is a former resident of Topeka.

## AIR BOMB U-BOAT

Plunger Goes Down After Desperate Efforts To Save Self.

French Flyers in Spectacular Battle With Submarine.

Paris, Feb. 15.—An encounter between two French hydroplanes and a German submarine in the English channel recently probably resulted in the sinking of the U-boat after it had been bombed by the planes, according to an official announcement by the French admiralty.

The planes were on patrol duty over the channel when they discovered the submarine on the surface. They attacked it after maneuvering to the right, and the submarine, backed, and the submarine plunged, but it did not disappear before the aviators had succeeded in dropping several bombs on or near the periscope.

While one airplane returned to the base, the other kept watch and saw the submarine emerge after a few seconds with a list to port of 45 degrees. After attempting to right itself, the submarine again disappeared, only to reappear a third time. Its instability, however, increased, and suddenly the observer saw it return to the surface, and it sank, so that even the periscope could not be seen.

## TOLEDO FLOOD BAD

Ice Gorge Backing Water Over City—Industries Face Shut Down.

Toledo, O., Feb. 15.—Toledo today was threatened with one of the most serious floods in its history. Thousands of tons of ice which passed down the Maumee river early today have lodged at the entrance of Maumee bay, forming a massive gorge.

Water is backing up, flooding the first floors of numerous factories and business houses. Water street, a block from the river, is under four feet of water. The river stage is ten feet above normal and is rising rapidly.

Eighty per cent of Toledo's industries are facing a shutdown as a result of the flood waters that are sweeping the city's waterfront.

## FIFTY CHILDREN BURN TO DEATH IN ASYLUM FIRE

Orphans Smothered by Smoke and Bodies Incinerated.

Home of Grey Nuns in Montreal Partly Destroyed.

## SOLDIERS DO HEROIC WORK

Aged, Sick, Crippled and Infirm Rescued on Their Cots.

Recover Bodies of 38 Babies; Many More Still in Ruins.

Montreal, Que., Feb. 15.—Fifty-five babies, founding orphans, are known to have lost their lives in the fire that swept thru the west wing of the Grey nunnery here. At noon today firemen had taken forty-three blackened little bodies from the ruins. Twelve more have been sighted.

It is feared the death list will reach at least seventy, for the work of checking over the living babies has not been completed. Some of the little forms were almost consumed by the blaze that swept quickly thru the portion of the nunnery used for wounded soldiers and for homeless children.

X-Ray Machine Started Fire.

An investigation today proved that the fire was caused when a wire leading to an X-ray machine came in contact with a floor. Loss to the building is estimated at \$125,000. Military authorities lost medical apparatus worth about \$150,000.

Montreal, Que., Feb. 15.—More than fifty orphan children today today in a fire which partially destroyed the Grey nunnery here.

Many other inmates of the building, including soldiers, nursing homes, sick and crippled men and children are reported to have been saved.

All available ambulances and other vehicles were rushed to the scene and are waiting while firemen and rescuers search the ruins.

It is thought that survivors may die as result of shock and exposure. Several days may pass before a complete list of the toll of lives can be made.

Last night firemen searching in the ruins found the charred bodies of thirty-eight babies.

Other bodies will be found in the portion of the building that was still in flames today.

Soldiers Are Fire Heroes.

Heroic rescues by returned soldiers were numerous.

When firemen arrived to battle with the flames, soldiers were already at work and were fighting desperately to save the lives of the inmates. The soldiers were handing baby after baby to each other down the fire escapes. In many instances soldiers were seen to have as many as four children in their arms at one time.

When the orders of the fire chief, that soldiers stopped entering the burning building. Sudden bursting forth of flames fanned to a fury firemen's efforts to prevent further rescuing work.

Bedridden men and women and aged nuns, some of whom have not seen the outside of the institution for a score of years, were carried from the building on cots, chairs and blankets, by soldiers, policemen and volunteers.

Wrinkled faces, crowned with snow-white hair, gave mute evidence of the shock caused by their sudden removal.

Children burned to crisp. Many of the recovered bodies of children were burned to a crisp and were beyond recognition. Under the efforts of the police officials many bodies were found on the floor in a room in which but a few hours before the babies had been playing with blocks and toys.

Sister Laframboise expressed the belief that most of the dead children had been smothered by the dense clouds of smoke.

"I was just leaving the chapel," she said, "where I was ending retreat, when the fire alarm sounded. I met other sisters hurrying to the chapel, and they cried that the Creche was on fire. When I arrived there I found two rooms ablaze, but I seized two little ones and rushed to carry them to a place of safety."

One of the nuns, her face blacked from smoke, said the flames came from the kitchen. She believed the fire started from a spark from the switch of the X-ray machine in the soldiers' hospital.

## GREEDY HUNS TO POUNCE ON POOR HELPLESS RUSSIA

Imperial Council Decides To Launch Drive on Slavs.

Kaiser Wilhelm and Military Leaders Reach Decision.

## TO CAPTURE PETROGRAD FIRST

Will Force Own "Peace" Terms Down Russia's Throat.

Military Support of Ukraine Ruse for German Invasion.

London, Feb. 15.—Germany has resolved to use military activities against northern Russia. This decision is said to have been reached at a conference at Imperial headquarters, special dispatches from Holland say.

The conference was attended by Emperor William, Chancellor von Hertling, Field Marshal von Hindenburg, General von Ludendorff, Foreign Secretary von Kuehlmann and others.

The "no war, but no peace" plan of Leon Trotsky, the Bolshevik foreign minister was rejected at the conference, according to the Amsterdam correspondent of the Daily Express, and as Trotsky does not accept German peace, he will get war.

Invasion of great Russia, it is added, will continue at any rate, until Petrograd is occupied by the German troops.

Consider Armistice Ended.

A dispatch to the Daily News from Rotterdam says that the Germans take the view that Trotsky's declaration, although it did not end the war, automatically ended the armistice. (The armistice expired February 14.)

The Germans now consider that they have a free hand and mean to use the opportunity.

This, according to the correspondent, does not mean necessarily that the Germans will immediately try to reach Petrograd, but more probably that they will support the Ukraine by force of arms. The Germans, he says, are carrying on an active propaganda in the Ukraine for the purpose of persuading the radicals that the new state is endangered by the Bolsheviks. It is declared that this is all part of Germany's scheme for breaking up the other bodies will be found in the portion of the building that was still in flames today.

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The cold spell will last several days, Mr. Flora asserts.

## CASTLE IS KILLED

Famous Dancer Falls in Plane Near Texas Camp.

Won Fame in 150 Flights Over German Lines in France.

Port Worth, Tex., Feb. 15.—Capt. Vernon Castle, once famous dancer, of the English Royal Flying corps was killed this morning in his airplane fifteen miles west of Fort Worth.

Served to Avoid Collision.

Castle in trying to avoid a cadet aircraft his machine beyond his control, fell and was unable to right himself.

The cadet was an American but was being instructed by the British. The accident happened close by the Benbrook camp.

Castle's plane was near the ground and he was in the front seat instructing the cadet instead of in the rear, as he usually did.

Had he occupied the rear seat, he would not have been injured. When he saw the danger of a collision with the approaching plane, Castle went to what aviators know as an immediate evasive action.

Castle had made over 150 flights over the German lines and was the hero of many exploits in the war zone. His work had been especially on the Flanders front and covered a period of nine months. He came to Port Worth last October along with Lord Wellesley.

Won License Two Years Ago.

New York, Feb. 15.—Vernon Castle had a national reputation as a dancer. His home was here. With his wife also a graceful dancer, he attained great popularity several years ago as a teacher of modern dances. When the war broke out both of the Castles became interested in war work and Mr. Castle took up aviation.

He was granted an aviator's pilot

## GENERAL OFFICE SEEMED NOT "WILD" TO FORM UNION

Sentiment Seems Divided Over Organization Proposals.

Some of Men Want To Be Shown the Advantages.

## STICK BY "OLD MAN RIPLEY"

That Is Desire of Those Who Oppose New Move.

Labor Leaders Secretly at Work on Their Plans.

"Show us where we can better our condition and standing by affiliating with a labor union and we will look over the proposal," said one of them.

That was the attitude taken today by the majority of Santa Fe office employees, following an invitation from carmen in the shops to "come in." The invitation was extended Thursday night by resolution at a meeting wherein the carmen were given their union cards by labor officials.

Men in close touch with the offices, and the employees themselves, assert that the men and women are inclined to look over the union proposition twice. One thing is sure, the office employees are not stampeding to the union ranks, nor are the shopmen, when invited. Labor officials are not so enthusiastic over the job of lining up the offices as they were over the shop employees.

The office to make the matter plain, are backward and a fight among the employees themselves will undoubtedly result if an effort to get them to join in a body is made.

Stand by Ripley.

Affiliation of the office employees with the American Federation of Labor is apparently being put to a test by public invitation from the shopmen and by secret activities originating with union labor officials.

The public invitation campaign was launched in the resolutions adopted by the carmen, who asserted working conditions are worse in the offices than in the shops. Office men said the new union would be a "working conditions" being bad.

Scores asserted their intention of standing by "Old Man Ripley," and declared that the new union would be a "working conditions" being bad. Scores asserted their intention of standing by "Old Man Ripley," and declared that the new union would be a "working conditions" being bad.

The labor officials were asked this morning if the organization of office employees would be put to a test soon. The question was evaded, as was a query for information as to how the "test" was to be made.

Use Secret Method.

"The method we will use in making the test will be secret," said the labor official. "Do you think we would have been so successful in the shops if our methods had not been secret? Our plan is to use the same method with the office employees are not public property."

It was also stated that the office employees would have to get in touch with the unions if they wanted to organize. Labor officials refused to state how this should be done.

Suggest Strong Vote.

The labor officials have also offered the idea of a "straw vote" being taken by E. P. Ripley, president, to find out how many employees want union labor. The labor officials refused to state how this should be done.

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## DUAL HANGING BANDIT SLAYERS IN CHICAGO JAIL

Wheed and Lindrum Executed on Same Scaffold Today.

Former Killed Two Men and Stole \$8,700 Payroll.

## LINDRUM SLEW POLICEMAN

One Read Bible, Other Played Cards Before Hanging.

Wheed Once Served Six-Year Sentence at Leavenworth.

Chicago, Feb. 15.—Edward Wheed and Harry Lindrum were hanged from the same scaffold here today for murder.

Chicago, Feb. 15.—Edward "Amusement" Wheed, slayer of two persons in the Winslow Brothers' payroll robbery last summer, and Harry Lindrum, slayer of Patrolman Tierman, sentenced to be hanged today, spent their last hours in widely contrasting ways.

Wheed read the Bible and prayed from time to time, and declined breakfast, after a sleepless night. Lindrum snored lustily for six hours, played cards with his guards, and remarked that his last breakfast ought to be a good one, ordered steak, potatoes, French fried potatoes and coffee.

Wheed was convicted of the murder of Barton Allen and Louis Osenberg, express payroll messengers with money for the Chicago Brothers' plant, 4700 West Harrison street.

Wheed was held with a sawed off shot gun, armed up Allen and Osenberg, at 10:30 o'clock, August 28, when they were in front of the plant. Blowing off Allen's head he turned quickly and struck Osenberg a fatal blow with the butt of the gun. With \$8,700 as booty, he escaped, after a long chase thru the streets.

Included in the money taken, was a considerable amount of gold coin. Thru a "go-between," with whom Wheed was endeavoring to exchange gold for a passport, he secured a passport and returned to the United States. They are just out of Austria.

The two Americans say they were better treated in Austria than were treated in Germany.

(Continued on Page Two.)

## STR IN BELGIUM

Anti-King Agitators Jailed; Germans Free Them.

Then Magistrates Arrested and All Jurists Threaten Strike.

Amsterdam, Feb. 14.—Les Nouvelles (Maastricht) reports that the Belgian government, having ordered the arrest of anti-king agitators, has decided to prosecute all activists guilty of having announced the fall of the king's government and others proclaiming autonomy in Flanders. The three presidents of the Brussels court of cassation placed under arrest Pierre Tock and Dr. August Borms, leaders of the activist movement.

The Germans immediately hastened to the palace of justice in Brussels and arrested the three presidents, and at the same time releasing Tock and Borms. The news spread like wild-fire and delegates representing 600 Brussels societies met in the main square, where a demonstration was being carried out.

The police and soldiers charged and fired upon the crowds, several soldiers and civilians being killed or wounded.

The three magistrates were sent to Germany. "Later the court of cassation met and decided to resign in a body if the three magistrates were not released. All the Belgian tribunals met and decided to strike. The Belgian people everywhere, according to this report, are in a state of extreme indignation against the Flemish inhabitants."

## GAS DRIVE ON HUNS

Poison Vapor Bombs To Be Prime Weapon of America.

Washington, Feb. 15.—A great poison gas campaign is being planned by the United States government against the Germans, testimony before the house appropriations committee, just made public, shows.

The plan is to use poison gas in the form of vapor bombs, which are now ready for shipment from America and General Pershing's urgent request for poison gas plants, both in America and France, has been granted by the house appropriations committee. These two plants will cost about \$10,000,000.

Watch for New Kind of Gas.

Experts will be sent to the plant in France to watch carefully for any new gas that may prove more deadly and to be ready to meet any emergency.

The American plant will be designed to produce a gas which is more deadly than the gas which the Germans are now using, while the plant in France will become one for experiment.

Testifying before the committee, Col. E. B. Baggett, in charge of this work, pointed out that it is necessary to change the whole gas program by the discovery of some new poison gas.

"No phase of trench warfare is open to such sudden shifts as gas warfare," he said. "For instance, the mustard gas used by the Germans completely changed the program."

## GERMANS HATED BUT FEARED BY AUSTRIAN ALLY

Breach Between Vienna and Berlin Publicly Recognized.

Austria Claims She's a Victim Not Accomplice of Huns.

## AMERICANS TREATED KINDLY

Treated Us Better Than the Germans, Says U. S. Jockey.

Poor People Dying Like Flies Due to Lack of Proper Food.

BY WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS. (Copyright, 19